



News Release

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RECALL: "CADET" IN-WALL ELECTRIC HEATERS

BATON ROUGE – State Fire Marshal V. J. Bella announced that the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Cadet Manufacturing Company are reminding consumers of the joint nationwide recall of approximately 1.9 million in-wall electric heaters under the brand names "Cadet" and "Encore". The recall, begun on February 17, 2000, has resulted in the shipment of over 336,000 heaters to date. The ongoing recall includes the following models and variants of "Cadet" and "Encore" Series heaters, regardless of purchase date:

Series FW, FX, LX, TK, ZA, Z, RA, RK, RLX, RW, RX, AND ZC

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has advised that these heaters may be defective and could overheat, fail, catch fire, and spew flames and molten particles. The CPSC and Cadet are aware of a number of incidents in which the heaters malfunctioned, causing the heaters to emit flames, sparks, and/or smoke. According to information received from Cadet Manufacturing, some of these incidents have allegedly led to property damage, personal injury, and death. The recall involves the removal and replacement of the entire heatbox, not including any fittings, fixtures, wall cans, grills or thermostats. The CPSC and Cadet are continuing to urge consumers to participate in the recall, if they have not done so already. **THE PARTICIPATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 17, 2002.**

Due to its 1999 Chapter 11 Bankruptcy, Cadet is not able to provide free replacements or full reimbursements for these units, however under the terms of the recall, Cadet will provide the consumer with replacement heaters at substantially reduced prices ranging from \$25.26 to \$56.76, depending upon the model. Consumers who have already replaced the recalled units on or after October 23, 1997, but prior to the recall announcement of February 17, 2000, may be eligible to receive a reimbursement of up to \$25 per unit, subject to the availability of funds in a special remediation fund.

Information on product identification, as well as further details on the recall may be obtained through direct contact with Cadet. The recall program is offered only by Cadet, and not through its retail, wholesale, or distribution channels. Consumers who believe that they have one of the recalled heaters should contact Cadet directly at the **Cadet Heater Recall Hotline: (800) 567-2613** or visit their website at www.cadetco.com.

"Everyone should check their heaters before the cold weather returns," said Fire Marshal Bella. "If you have an in-wall electric heater, please check the product identification to determine whether it is one of the recalled "Cadet" or "Encore" models, and take advantage of this recall before it expires."

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